

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 WARSAW 05678 131512Z

53

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 EB-07 AGR-05 COME-00 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 OMB-01 CIEP-01 /068 W
----- 116461

O R 131351Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3244

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 5678

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, ECON, PL

SUBJECT: POLAND PARTIALLY RATIONS SUGAR

1. SUMMARY: FOLLOWING A POLITBIURO MEETING ON AUGUST 11, THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ANNOUNCED LATE AUGUST 12 THAT SUGAR WOULD BE PARTIALLY RATIONED BEGINNING AUGUST 16 BECAUSE OF CONTINUED HOARDING AND HEAVY SPECULATIVE BUYING. THE RATIONING WILL ADD ADDITIONAL FUEL TO PUBLIC RESENTMENT ABOUT THE GOVERNMENT'S INABILITY TO FULLY MEET CONSUMER DEMANDS.

2. THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS' ACTION FOLLOWS
NUMEROUS POLISH PRESS REPORTS THAT SUGAR SUPPLIES TO THE DOMESTIC MARKET IN JUNE AND JULY OF 1976 WERE LARGER THAN IN THE SAME PERIOD DURING 1974 AND 1975 AND THAT THIS YEAR'S SUGAR BEET CROP WILL BE GOOD.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 WARSAW 05678 131512Z

DESPITE THESE AMPLE SUPPLIES, DOMESTIC

SALES DURING THE MONTH OF JUNE WERE REPORTEDLY 40 PER CENT HIGHER THAN A YEAR AGO, LEADING TO THE CONCLUSION THE HOARDING AND SPECULATIVE BUYING WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE UNUSUALLY HEAVY DEMAND THIS SUMMER.

3. COMMENT: THIS HEAVY DEMAND HAS BEEN MANIFESTED THROUGH LONG LINES OF WAITING CUSTOMERS BEFORE PRACTICALLY EVERY RETAIL OUTLET IN POLAND FOR THE PAST SIX WEEKS. THESE QUELLES, COMBINED WITH CONTINUED BOTTLENECKS AND SHORTAGES OF MEAT, ARE REMINISCENT OF PAST BUYING PANICS IN POLAND AND DO NOTHING TO IMPROVE THE TEMPER OF HOUSEWIVES AND THE POPULACE IN GENERAL.

4. THE CONTINUING RUN ON SUGAR STOCKS IS A FURTHER POPULAR VOTE OF NO CONFIDENCE IN THE CURRENT REGIME, SHOWING THAT THE DUST OF JUNE 24-25 EVENTS HAS CLEARLY NOT YET SETTLED. RECALLING THAT SUGAR WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE MORE THAN DOUBLED IN PRICE ACCORDING TO PREMIER JAROSZEWICZ'S JUNE 24 SPEECH, THE PUBLIC HAS NOT ACCEPTED GOVERNMENT SUBSEQUENT ASSURANCES THAT ONLY MEAT, MEAT PRODUCTS AND POULTRY PRICES WILL BE RAISED IN THE COMING MONTHS. MOREOVER, THE PROBLEM OF AN INCREASINGLY LARGE SURPLUS OF SAVINGS CHASING TOO FEW DESIRABLE CONSUMER FOODS REMAINS, WITH THE RESULT THAT CHEAP SUGAR HAS BECOME A PRIME INVESTMENT. (END COMMENT).

4. DETAILS OF THIS DECISION, TOGETHER WITH ADDITIONAL EMBASSY COMMENTS, WILL FOLLOW BY SEPTTEL. BROWN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SUGAR, GOVERNMENT REFORM, RATIONING, ECONOMIC CONSUMPTION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976WARSAW05678
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760312-0151
From: WARSAW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760853/aaaabuhi.tel
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 APR 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <02 AUG 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POLAND PARTIALLY RATIONS SUGAR
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, ECON, PL
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006